

**WILMINGTON URBAN AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
BOARD**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE PORTS
AUTHORITY'S GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION'S FY2023 PORT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT
GRANT PROGRAM TO FUND A NEW NORTH GATE AT THE PORT OF
WILMINGTON**

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization provides transportation planning services for the City of Wilmington, Town of Carolina Beach, Town of Kure Beach, Town of Wrightsville Beach, Town of Belville, Town of Leland, Town of Navassa, New Hanover County, Brunswick County, Pender County, Cape Fear Public Transportation Authority, and the North Carolina Board of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Ports Authority owns and operates an ocean port terminal in Wilmington, North Carolina in New Hanover County and the operation of such a terminal is a tremendous catalyst for economic growth and development throughout North Carolina and the region; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Ports Authority's contributed more than \$16.2 billion in annual economic contribution to the state's economy constituted by goods moving through the port facilities and supported 88,200 full-time jobs at North Carolina businesses; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Ports Authority strategic plan forecasts a doubling of general terminal and container volumes at the Port of Wilmington over the next five years; and

WHEREAS, to service existing customers and accommodate growing volumes at the Port of Wilmington, a new gate complex is needed; and

WHEREAS, this investment will allow provide for a new port gate complex away from residential neighborhoods, and

WHEREAS, this investment will provide reduce truck and rail conflicts within the terminal, and


WHEREAS, this investment will increase capacity through this growing economic hub has a dual benefit to in-terminal efficiency and outside of terminal congestion reduction, and

WHEREAS, this investment will decrease traffic congestion and improve safety, efficiency, system performance, and infrastructure return on investment (ROI) as well as deliver environmental benefits to the community.

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Ports Authority is preparing a grant application for the United States Department of Transportation's FY2023 Port Infrastructure Development grant program to fund a new north gate at the Port of Wilmington.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby supports the North Carolina State Ports Authority's application for the United States Department of Transportation's FY 2023 Port Infrastructure development grant program to fund a new North Gate at the Port of Wilmington.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Board on February 20, 2023.


Henry E. Miller III, Chair


Mike Kozlosky, Secretary